

REMARKS

I. Claims 1-5 are pending in this application. Reconsideration of the rejections in view of these amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with Markings to Show Changes Made.**"

By the amendment, Claim 1 is canceled and claim 20 is added. Claim 20 is readable on species A. The basis of the amendment is found at page 6, lines 4-14. Claims 2 to 5 have been made dependent on claim 20.

According to the present invention, the coating is formed by coating the substrate with a coating liquid containing a porous filler and a binder, followed by drying the coating liquid, and then, a water-soluble cationic organic material is impregnated into the coating. Thus, the water-soluble cationic organic material is not present in the binder, since the binder is dried and solidified before impregnating the cationic organic material. Since the water-soluble cationic organic material is not present in the binder, the binder improves its binding property to retain the filler.

II. Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. 103

(1) Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shaw-Klein et al. (U.S. 6,110,601) in view of Sekiguchi et al. (U.S. 6,312,794).

According to the present invention, the water-soluble cationic organic material is not present in the binder since it is impregnated after drying and solidifying the coating liquid of the porous filler and the binder. Neither Shaw-Klein et al. nor Sekiguchi et al. discloses the technique of the present invention to avoid the water-soluble cationic organic material from being present in the binder. Even if combining Shaw-Klein et al. with Sekiguchi et al., the present invention cannot be obtained. Removal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

(2) Claims 1 were 3-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shaw-Klein et al. (U.S. 6,110,601) in view of Graczyk et al. (U.S. 6,372,329).

Neither Shaw-Klein et al. nor Graczyk et al. discloses the technique of the present invention to avoid the water-soluble cationic organic material from being present in the binder. Even if combining Shaw-Klein et al. with Graczyk et al., the present invention cannot be obtained. Removal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

(3) Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shaw-Klein et al. (U.S. 6,110,601) in view of Liu et al. (U.S. 5,989,378).

Neither Shaw-Klein et al. nor Liu et al. discloses the technique of the present invention to avoid the water-soluble cationic organic material from being present in the binder. Even if

combining Shaw-Klein et al. with Liu et al., the present invention cannot be obtained. Removal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

(4) Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Graczyk et al. (U.S. 6,372,329) in view of Sekiguchi et al. (U.S. 6,312,794).

Neither Graczyk et al. nor Sekiguchi et al. discloses the technique of the present invention to avoid the water-soluble cationic organic material from being present in the binder. Even if combining Graczyk et al. with Sekiguchi et al., the present invention cannot be obtained. Removal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

(5) Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Graczyk et al. (U.S. 6,372,329) in view of Liu et al. (U.S. 5,989,378).

Neither Graczyk et al. nor Liu et al. discloses the technique of the present invention to avoid the water-soluble cationic organic material from being present in the binder. Even if combining Graczyk et al. with Liu et al., the present invention cannot be obtained. Removal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

III. It is submitted that nothing in the cited references, taken either alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the features recited in each claim of the present invention. Thus, all pending

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claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections, withdrawal of the rejections and an early issue of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: Version with markings to show changes made

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 2-5 have been amended as follows:

2. (Amended) An ink jet recording sheet according to Claim [±] 20, wherein a silanol-modified polyvinyl alcohol is contained as the binder.

3. (Amended) An ink jet recording sheet according to Claim [±] 20, wherein the water-soluble cationic organic material is a dicyandiamide condensate.

4. (Amended) An ink jet recording sheet according to Claim [±] 20, wherein the ink receiving layer contains a hydrate aluminum oxide.

5. (Amended) An ink jet recording sheet according to Claim [±] 20, wherein the ink receiving layer contains a water-soluble aluminum salt.